CNG Shortage in Delhi

2549. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI NAGENDRA NATO OJHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the difficulties being faced by the three wheeler and bus operators in Delhi due to the CNG fuel shortage and lack of sufficient number of filling stations;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the problem will be aggravated after the expiry of the 30th September Supreme Court deadline to convert all buses and three wheeler to CNG fuel operating ones; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to face the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Sir the difficulty is more due to sudden conversion of a large numbers of autos to CNG mode and non-availability of booster compressors at daughter stations.

(b) and (c) In the present scenario it is very difficult to predict with reasonable accuracy the precise number of vehicles which will get converted to CNG mode. However the estimates of IGL is that by September 2001 the number of CNG vehicles on road of Delhi would be approximately 54,000 for which the demand of CNG will be 4.20 lakh kg/day as against the dispensing capacity of 4.40 lakh kg/day.

The following steps have been/are being taken to further enhance the supply of CNG in Delhi;

- Orders have been placed for higher capacity compressors.
- The total CNG stations would be increased to 87 by September 2001 and to 94 by March 2002.
- The existing 39 daughter stations are proposed to be upgraded to daughter booster stations progressively by December 2001.

Action has been initiated to lay 23 kms. long gas pipeline connecting Dhaula Kuan with GT Kamal Road.

In addition, 50 retail outlets have been identified for co-locating CNG dispensing facility.

Shortage of Kerosene in Rajasthan

2550. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of acute shortage of kerosene in the rural areas of Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the necessary steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Kerosene is an allocated product and Central Government allocates it to the States/Union Territories on annual basis and same is released on monthly basis. The Central Government also makes additional allocations of kerosene over and above normal allocations to States on requests received from State Governments to meet exigencies like floods, cyclones etc.

The distribution within the State is responsibility of the concerned State Government. Requests are received from various State Governments for enhancement of kerosene quota from time to time. Kerosene is a deficit product in the country and on account of constraints of product availability, foreign exchange outgo and heavy subsidy, the distribution has to be judicious.

Regulatory Authority for Oil and Gas Industry

2551. SHRIYADLAPATIVENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a regulatory authority to monitor the oil and gas industry in India; and

(b) the other steps proposed to ensure that both private and public enterprises do not concentrate only on urban areas and rural areas are equally covered insetting up of outlets with proper supply and distribution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) In the deregulated